

Our Mission

Making communities safer by delivering individualized and integrated support, empowering those in conflict with the law to achieve positive change.

Our Organization

The John Howard Society of Toronto is a non-profit organization committed to providing and developing programs that reduce the social, economic, and personal costs of crime. The Society is dedicated to helping all people who have been in conflict with the law and individuals at imminent risk of coming into conflict with the law through service, education, and community programs.

The roots of the John Howard Society can be traced back to the 18th Century England to a man named John Howard. He began investigating prison conditions – lack of medical care, sanitation, death from disease and starvation. He wrote a paper that was presented to the British House of Parliament entitled “On the State of Prisons in England”. He began the reform movement and continued to devote the rest of his life to prison reform. He died in 1790.

We are seeking enthusiastic and experienced volunteers to fulfil the following roles on the JHST Board of Directors:

- Board Director (3 open positions) – With experience in one of the following areas:
 - Corporate Communications (internal and/or external)
 - Criminal Justice System
 - Marketing
 - Corporate Strategic Planning
 - Human Resources Management and/or Union experience
 - Non-profit Housing
- Board Treasurer (1 open position) - This role requires experience in Excel and understanding financial reporting at a general level for an approximate \$6 million annual budget.

Your Commitments and responsibilities:

- Serve in a volunteer capacity without remuneration;
- Commit to a one to three-year term (with the possibility of renewal);
- Understand the role and responsibilities of a Board Director and become fully informed on organizational matters;

- Participate in the Board’s deliberations and decisions in matters of finance, policy, risk management, strategic direction and advocacy;
- Evaluate and approve policy and other recommendations brought to the Board;
- Attend Board meetings regularly and be prepared to engage in meaningful debate, including reviewing the agenda and supporting materials prior to meetings;
- Serve on one or more committees of the Board and/or assist with special projects as needed;
- Allocate an average of 10-12 hours per month to contribute to a working Board;
- Abide by the by-laws, conflicts of interest, and policies that apply to the Board, and respect the confidentiality of organizational information and Board and Management decisions;
- Be an ambassador for the John Howard Society Toronto and its mission, and act in its best interests;
- Be informed of and strive to meet all applicable legal and fiduciary responsibilities; and
- Participate in John Howard Society Toronto’s fund raising and special events.

Qualifications:

- Active contribution as a team player;
- A solution orientated mindset, creative thinking approach to issues and an inclusive perspective;
- Time and energy to prepare for the monthly Board meetings and committee meetings;
- Personal commitment to John Howard Society Toronto’s vision and mission;
- Knowledge of, or interest in the Criminal Justice System and helping those in conflict with the law; and
- Knowledge of BIPOC communities would be considered an asset.

Our Board meets between 10 and 12 times per year. We meet remotely for most meetings but do try to meet quarterly in person. In-person meetings are held at our Head Office, located at 1669 Eglinton Avenue West in Toronto. We encourage applications from individuals who reflect the diversity of the community in which we serve including, but not limited to: those who have been in conflict of the law, BIPOC, LGBT2Q+ individuals, and individuals with disabilities.

This is your opportunity to assume an instrumental role in guiding the future of an important and valuable community organization and making a difference in your community.

Interested applicants are asked to send a letter of interest noting which of the open positions they are applying for, and resume to our Board President at boardpresident@jhst.ca by April 30, 2024.